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Docket No.: 058 29-0109

pcket No.: 058 9-0109 PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277

Masahiro ABE, et al : Confirmation Number: 3795

Application No.: 10/813,429 : Group Art Unit: 3623

Filed: March 31, 2004 : Examiner: S. L. Jarrett

For: SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING A WORKFLOW

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

## CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

10/813,429

The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information

Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a

counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information

Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

The references were cited in a Japanese Office Action and their relevance is discussed

therein. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to

such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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